

Claims

What is claimed is:

5 1. A steamatory for preparing a body for burial,
 comprising:

 a chamber having an access panel;

 a tray at least partially removable from the chamber
 through the access panel;

10 a plurality of steam ports disposed within the
 chamber; and

 a steam generator for providing steam to the
 plurality of steam ports within the chamber, wherein the
 steam injected into the chamber causes tissue of the body
15 to separate from bone structure.

2. The steamatory of claim 1 wherein the tray includes
multiple stacked trays.

20 3. The steamatory of claim 2 wherein the tray is made
 with a wire mesh having openings through which the tissue
 of body falls after separation from the bone structure.

4. The steamatory of claim 3 further including:

25 a funnel portion of the chamber for channeling the
 tissue after falling through the wire mesh of the tray;
 and

 a container coupled to the funnel portion for
 collecting the tissue of the body.

30 5. The steamatory of claim 1 wherein the steam injected
 into the chamber maintains moisture content of the bone
 structure.

6. An apparatus for preparing a body for burial,
comprising:

a vessel adapted for accepting the body;

5 a support structure disposed within the vessel for
supporting the body; and

a plurality of steam ports disposed within the
vessel, wherein steam injected into the vessel causes
tissue of the body to separate from bone structure.

10 7. The apparatus of claim 6 further including a steam
generator for providing steam to the plurality of steam
ports within the vessel.

15 8. The apparatus of claim 6 further including an access
panel coupled to the vessel for opening the vessel to
accept the body.

9. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the vessel
includes:

20 a pan; and

a lid detachable from the pan for opening the vessel
to accept the body.

25 10. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the support
structure includes a tray which is partially removable
from the vessel.

11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the support
structure includes multiple stacked trays.

30

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the tray is made
with a wire mesh having openings through which the tissue
of body falls after separation from the bone structure.

13. The apparatus of claim 12 further including:
a funnel portion of the vessel for channeling the
tissue after falling through the wire mesh of the tray;
and

5 a container coupled to the funnel portion for
collecting the tissue of the body.

14. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the steam injected
into the vessel maintains moisture content of the bone
10 structure.

15. A method of preparing a body for burial, comprising:
providing a vessel adapted for accepting the body;
placing the body on a support structure disposed
15 within the vessel; and

injecting steam through a plurality of steam ports
disposed within the vessel to cause tissue of the body to
separate from bone structure.

20 16. The method of claim 15 further including the steps
of:

generating steam; and
routing the steam to the plurality of steam ports
within the vessel.

25 17. The method of claim 15 wherein the support structure
includes a tray which is partially removable from the
vessel.

30 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the tray is made with
a wire mesh having openings through which the tissue of
body falls after separation from the bone structure.

19. The method of claim 18 further including the steps

of:

channeling the tissue through a funnel after falling
through the wire mesh of the tray; and

collecting the tissue of the body in a container.

5

20. The method of claim 15 wherein the steam injected
into the vessel maintains moisture content of the bone
structure.

10